A RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

FOR

LAND BASED ACTIVITIES

IN THE

NORTH COAST FOREST DISTRICT

2000-2004

Ministry of Forests

October 5, 1999

Amended – November 29, 1999

105-05556/

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1.0 Introduction

The following document is a Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the North Coast Forest District (DNC). It examines 'investment needs' of the forested land based in consideration of the longer-term implications. This examination is directed at the Forest Renewal BC (FRBC) Land Based programs but also includes other ministry program as listed below:

Enhancing Environmental Values – Watershed Restoration
Sustainable Harvest – Silviculture and Forest Health
Strengthen Sustainable Forest Management – Inventory
Road and Bridge Maintenance – To be developed later
Recreation Site and Trail Maintenance – To be developed later

For each of the above programs, this plan provides the strategic objective for managing the resources under each program along with the strategies and opportunities necessary to meet that objective. Investment priorities and opportunities have been identified along with the 'critical' and optimal levels of delivery for each activity.

A significant portion of the funding for these investments is provided through the Skeena/Bulkley Region of FRBC under their land-based programs. Although the Ministry of Forests (MOF) and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks (MELP) have the mandate for administering the land base, much of the resource investments may be delivered by stakeholders other than these government ministries.

The ministries must provide FRBC and the other stakeholders guidance as to which activities are sound resource investments for achieving the resource management objectives. Often that includes considerations into the timing, quantity and location of the work in addition to the type of work that needs to be delivered. For a variety of reasons some of this work is 'critical' while other works may be considered a lower priority and not recommended at this time.

With this document for guidance, FRBC will be able to make better investment decisions. It will allow merging of the biological and land based needs of the natural resources with the socio-economic objectives of FRBC.

The guidelines followed for development of the RMP is found in Appendix 1.

A FRBC review of this plan has resulted in additional required information being included in Appendix 4.

2.0 Purpose

The RMP process addresses the priorities for the land-based activities from the perspective of biological needs and forest resource management priorities. It is designed to provide guidance to FRBC and other agencies in determining the best activities for investments, regardless of the funding source or who is actually completing the work.

Towards these ends, the RMP should satisfy a variety of purposes. It will examine the land based resource needs and priorities in terms of:

- commitments, recommendations and links to other land and resource management plans;
- the long-term resource implications of current investments;
- the value, risks and benefits of the various activities and treatments;
- the necessary timelines to meet resource management objectives;
- delivery recommendations, viable options and consequences of not carrying out the activity;
- consistency within programs and between delivery centers; and
- providing resource investment recommendations consistent with FRBC investment principles and ground rules.

3.0 The Planning Process

To fully understand the content of the plan it is beneficial to know the basic process, procedures and assumptions under which the plan was developed.

Land Based Programs

Sustainable Harvest (SH) formerly Backlog Reforestation and Enhanced Forestry (Silviculture), Enhance Environmental Values (EEV) formerly Watershed Restoration, and Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management (SSFM) formerly Operational Inventory are the land based programs being examined.

Other Programs

In addition, activities formerly funded by either ministry voted or FRBC budgets outside the land based programs and formerly known as "Block funding" (Recreation Site and Trail Maintenance, Forest Service Road and Bridge Maintenance, Forest Health and Inventory) are included in this document.

Resource Objectives

The plan is structured to provide the resource objectives as single strategic goal for each program. A set of district specific objectives, strategies and opportunities are provided regarding the recommended approach to achieve each objective.

Delivery Summaries

The following summaries table provides the details regarding the recommended optimal investment levels, the anticipated resource outputs (goals), the investment options and the rationale for these recommendations for each identified activity within a program. The opportunities and circumstances in each district are different. Therefore, the delivery summaries are district specific and all districts are summarized in the Regional RMP.

Table of Delivery Summary

Example Program	Program Objective (priority)	Opportunity (treatment activity)	$$ to Complete	Impacts ±
SH - Backlog	Maintain existing investments to FG * backlog NSR ***	see opportunity table	see opportunity table	critical (high impact to Timber Supply Review (TSR)
SH - EFP	Improve stand ***	see opportunity table	see opportunity table	low impact on future timber supply / medium impact on wood quality
SH - Forest Health	Surveys *** & studies control ****	see opportunity table	see opportunity table	medium / low
Recreation	Inventories ** Maintenance ** Rehab ** Development *** Interpretation ***	to be developed TBD	to be developed	high / medium / low
EEV - WRP	Protect, restore and maintain fisheries and aquatic resources in key watersheds. ** upgrade to FPC standards ****	see opportunity table	see opportunity table	high / medium
SSFM - OIP	see opportunity table	see opportunity table – a collated version will come from the Region.	see opportunity table	high / medium (TSR & Planning)
R & B	Maintenance ** Bridge replacement ***	to be developed TBD	to be developed	high / medium

Note:

*	**critical impact**
**	**high impact/AAC/STI**
***	**Medium**
****	**Low impact (non-essential) but biologically feasible**
*****	**Not recommendable at this time**

Resource Priorities

Within each program there are differing projects, levels of delivery and other differing circumstances. Often those differences have different priorities. The priority list has been designed to allow for these sub-sets within an activity as needed to suit the activity. Priorities have not been ranked between programs, but within a program. For the 'critical' ranking it was felt that consistency was needed between all programs and activities.

The priority rankings have been categorized into critical, high, moderate and low. Priorities are time sensitive and the priorities provided are only applicable to planning and rationalizing within programs only.

Planning Analysis

To develop the strategic objectives, strategies, goals, activity summaries, and priority lists a certain amount of analysis was essential. The process was informal and varied slightly from program to program. However, certain basic analysis components were common to all programs.

Each program determined the opportunities (activities) for investment and this included a review of the commitments and recommendations from other planning processes. Costs, benefits, risks, timing of delivery and long-term implications, etc., were all assessed in terms of land base needs. These were all reviewed in consideration of the regional investment principles and brought together into a reasonable RMP.

Participation

SH – Each Multi-Year Agreement (MYA) holder was requested to provide a series of tables that listed goals by activity with cost information for next fiscal year. In addition, they were requested to comment on the objectives and strategies from the 1999-2003 RMP. All MYA holders submitted the tables. There were no suggested changes to the objectives or strategies.

EEV – Each MYA holder was requested to provide information on WRP plans they felt were priorities for the next fiscal year. The information submitted was incorporated into a priority ranking of watersheds by landscape unit table. The table will be sent to the licensees, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), and the local MELP office for further feedback.

SSFM – MYA holders were sent an inventory questionnaire from the Prince Rupert Forest Region (RPR). The results are not listed in this plan. The SSFM information in this plan was prepared solely by DNC staff.

Correspondence with respect to stakeholder participation is included in Appendix 3.

Critical Work

For consistency between activities, programs and districts it was necessary to provide a definition applicable to all these. In this plan, the 'critical' level of investment is reached when one or more of the following crucial turning points is reached:

- Public health or safety is placed in jeopardy;
- Requirements from legislation, policy, the ministry mandate or commitments from higher level plans (e.g. Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) cannot be achieved);
- The level of work fails to support identified commitments to maintain fiber flow, Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) (e.g. Timber Supply Review (TSR) or mitigation of environmental damage);
- The Crown's financial interests in existing investments is compromised;
- If the work is not completed then it will have a detrimental impact on the health, vigor or vitality of the forest;
- Crucial data bases and inventories are not adequately maintained for the purposes intended; and
- If the work is not completed, it will have a negative impact that significantly affects the longer-term resource decisions and management options.

Links to Other Plans

The DNC is within the North Coast Timber Supply Area (TSA) and a portion of Tree Farm License (TFL) 25. A variety of plans are applicable to the district and to the TSA. These plans have been reviewed for commitments, recommendations and opportunities that will address issues and investment needs that are applicable to this RMP for the land based programs.

Regional Program Goals

Each of the programs for which a RMP is required, have a regional goal. These goals are the resource management 'target' and are designed to guide what the program needs to achieve. The objectives, strategies, opportunities within each program should all be directed towards achieving the applicable goal.

4.0 Overview of Timber Supply and Resource Management Issues

North Coast TSA

Basic Data

Land Area

Description	Area (ha)	Area %
Total Area of TSA	1 947 500	100
Total Productive Crown Forest	704 800	36
Net Timber Harv. Land Base	114 200	6

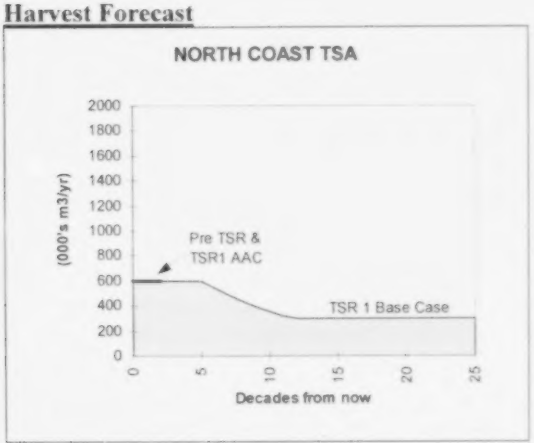
Source: TS analysis report - rounded to nearest 100 ha.

AAC

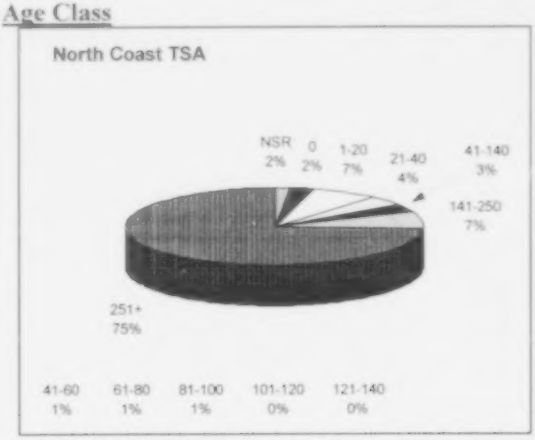
AAC Type	Pre-TSR (m^3)	TSR1* (m^3)	Change (%)
Conventional	600 000	600 000	0.0
Deciduous	-	-	-
Insect/Disease	-	-	-
Marginal	-	-	-
Total	600 000	600 000	0.0
Woodlot AAC			

*Effective September 1/95

Harvest Forecast

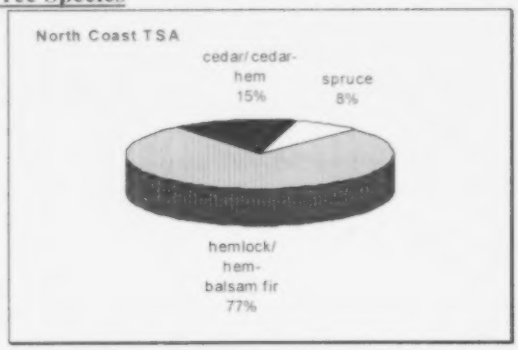


Age Class



Data scaled from chart in TS analysis report.

Tree Species



Issues

Individual Issue Analysis

♦ Harvest Forecast	**Significant falldown of 50%**, commencing after the 6th decade, from the pre TSR AAC of 600 000 m^3 to a long-term harvest level of 301 000 beginning at the start of decade 13.
♦ Age Class	Approximately 75% of THLB in stands aged over 250 years, while 83% of existing stands have reached harvestable age (rationale, 11). Very few stands are between 50 and 280 years old because of the limited occurrence of fire, insect and disease attack (analysis, 9). Age class structure is not a limiting factor in determining AAC (rationale, 11).
♦ Forest Cover	*IRM Zone*: 92% of THLB. Base case has no forest cover requirement in this zone because there were no requirements in effect at the time of analysis (1 pass system, although the actual average cutblock is < 40 ha (rationale, 28)). Sensitivity test of + 1, 2 & 3 passes; i.e., at most 50%, 33% or 25% of THLB permitted to be < 20 years. old (5 m tall). Relaxation: N/A Increase: (to 2, 3 or 4 pass systems). Insensitive to 2 pass system. Slight sensitivity to 3 or 4 pass, with falldown commencing 1 decade earlier than in the base case. Same LTHL. *Visual Quality Zones*: 8% of THLB. Base case requirement of at most 13% (retention VQO), and 34% (partial retention VQO) to be < 5 m tall. Sensitivity test of removing all constraints and of reducing allowable areas not greened-up by one third. Relaxation: (complete removal). Insensitive. Increase: (max 8% in R and 24% in PR to be < 5 m). Slight sensitivity. Decline to LTHL begins 1 decade earlier than in base case. LTHL same as base case. *Green-up*: 20 years in all zones. Sensitivity test of ± 10 years. Decrease: (- 10 years to 10 years). Insensitive. Increase: (+ 10 years to 30 years). Slight sensitivity. Decline to LTHL begins 1 decade earlier than in base case. LTHL same as base case.
♦ Backlog NSR	1 879 ha of backlog NSR at time of analysis, but had been reduced to 1 290 of treatable backlog by the time of the rationale. All area scheduled to be treated within 10 years. At worst, 625 ha may be declared uneconomical to treat and subsequently removed from the THLB. (Rationale, 23). Blocks require surveys to determine status. Numbers need to be revisited.
♦ Quality	• 5 627 ha of non-merchantable forest types deducted from THLB (all deciduous except G & M site cottonwood of stocking classes 0 or 1 within the Highway 16 corridor, all with low crown closure or below 19.4 m ht and 81 yr. old or older, all pine, and all cedar, hemlock, amabilis and spruce with stocking class 2). • 4 249 ha of low site deducted from THLB. • 67 ha of non-commercial cover (brush) deducted from THLB. The above area is small in comparison to the 418 234 ha deducted from THLB as inoperable productive forest.
♦ Older Forests	Base case does not include a requirement for old growth or biodiversity, as there are no specific provisions applied operationally in the TSA. Analysis assumed that biodiversity requirements would be largely met by the 94% of the total land base that lies outside the operable areas (rationale, 28). No sensitivity tests.
♦ Min. Harvest Ages	Base case use ages based on minimum sizes and volumes of 40 cm and 400 m^3/ha. Ages range from 40 years for cottonwood to 160 years for poor site stands. Avg. of 140 years. Sensitivity analyses of ± 20 years. Slight sensitivity to either. TSR 2 will use a reduced size and volume in the base case. Decrease: (- 20 years). Extends current harvest level for 8 decades, Vs 6 in the base case, before declining to a slightly higher LTHL of 311 000 m^3/yr. Increase: (+20 years). Advances the requirement for a harvest level reduction to the 4th decade. Slightly lower LTHL of 278 000 m^3/yr. reached in the 10th decade.
♦ Silvicultural Systems	Most of the THLB is currently managed under a clearcut harvesting system. Partial cutting systems, primarily handlogging, are used in < 3% of all harvesting. Use of alternative systems may increase. CF notes potential to use partial cutting to buffer the impact of increasing constraints by moving operations into areas that would otherwise be unavailable (rationale, 24).
♦ Site Index	Licensees and Forest Service staff agree site indices may be underestimated. Chief Forester notes that under different harvest flow assumptions from those of the base case it is possible that some increase could have resulted in the short term harvest level in relation to higher site indices (rationale, 13).

5.0 Summary of TSR Issues by Period

Short Term

The large amount of mature timber makes this TSA insensitive in the short term to changes in virtually all harvest flow constraints, with the one exception being a 20% reduction in existing stand volumes. Because both district staff and licensees are concerned that existing stand volumes are overestimated there is some possibility of this occurring.

Mid Term

The mid term is characterized by tightening supplies of remaining old growth which are being held until existing younger aged and regenerated stands become available. No sensitivity analysis scenario resulted in a mid term shortfall below the LTHL. Sensitivity tests generally indicated an earlier or later commencement of the mid term. As in the short term, the mid term is highly impacted were existing stand volumes to prove overestimated. It is also sensitive to factors that in effect result in reducing the amount of older timber available, such as a 15% reduction in the land base. A 20% reduction in regenerated stand volumes brings on an earlier initiation of harvest reductions (4 decades sooner than in the base case) due to the need to stretch existing stands over a longer period. A 20 year increase in minimum harvest ages brings on the transition to lower long term harvest levels 2 decades earlier than the base case, so that it begins after 4 decades.

On the positive impact side, a 20% increase in existing stand volumes (unlikely) allows current harvest levels to be maintained for 4 decades longer than in the base case.

Long Term

As is the case in virtually all management units, the long term is sensitive to changes in regenerated stand volumes. A 1% increase or decrease in volume results in a corresponding approximate 1% increase or decrease to LTHL. The long term would also be sensitive to increases in site indices.

Future

Older forest, Biodiversity and Forest Practices Code requirements are likely to have significant future impacts on timber supply.

An area of productive forest equal to **four times the size** of the net timber harvesting land base was deducted. Therefore, changes in operability will have a major impact on future harvest levels, potentially much more so than silvicultural interventions. A 15% increase in the operable land base extends the current harvest level to the ninth decade before declining to a higher long-term harvest level of 350 000 m^3 (rationale, 17).

6.0 Opportunities to Increase Timber Supply and Improve Timber Quality

(The objectives/actions/treatments identified with an * can potentially be accomplished with FRBC funding).

6.1 Opportunities to Increase Timber Supply

With an inoperable area four times the size of the net THLB, issues and opportunities associated with operability overshadow those of silviculture. However, assuming an operability status quo, silviculture should not be ruled out as a means to improve future harvest levels.

Potential Strategies by Response Time Frame

Response Time Frame	Objective/Action	Anticipated Result
♦ Short Term	1. None.	Maintain the current harvest level.
♦ Mid Term	2. None.	Smooth transition to a lower LTHL.
♦ Long Term	3. * Confirm site productivity increases and their harvest level consequences. 4. Increase regenerated stand volumes 10% by: * minimize regen delay • Planting large, genetically improved stock; * Manage voids so that TIPSY OAF1 does not exceed 10%. * Minimize time required to meet free to grow. 3. Ensure FH concerns do not impact Timber Supply by creating voids or reducing growth rates in particular. • Manage DMH in harvesting blocks * manage levels of porcupine attack	Increase long term timber supply by 25% to 50%.

Potential Treatments and Analysis Results

Treatment	Comment	Treatable Area
♦ Fertilization	Remoteness and accessibility may make fertilization expensive.	Vast majorities of stands are hemlock, which does not generally respond well to fertilization. * Fertilization screening trials should be carried out to determine treatment worth.
♦ Commercial Thinning	May be required to advance the merchantability of early second growth stands to ensure no shortfall in the transition period between the expiry of harvesting in existing stands and commencement in regenerated stands.	Few areas presently suitable.
♦ Rehabilitation		Few treatable areas.
♦ Backlog NSR	All backlog assumed treated within next 10 years. No additional opportunity.	

6.2 Opportunities to Improve Timber Quality

The effects of incremental silviculture on the future quality of the timber resource were not analyzed in the timber supply review.

Potential Strategies by Response Time Frame

Response Time Frame	Strategy/Action	Anticipated Result
◆ Short Term	None – Growing stock is currently in Old Growth	
◆ Mid Term	None – Growing stock is currently in Old Growth	
◆ Long Term	Control Species, increase piece size, improve wood quality	More desirable, market niche

Potential Treatments and Analysis Results

Treatment	Comment/ Potential Treatment Regimes	Treatable Area
◆ Spacing	* potential for controlling species and increasing piece size	Currently limited, however 1980s harvest is coming on line.
◆ Commercial Thinning	• Very limited suitable areas • High access costs	
◆ Pruning ◆ Space/ Prune	* Potential for increasing wood quality as above.	~ 2000 + ha
◆ Fertilization	The majority of stands contain a significant portion of hemlock which responds questionably to fertilization however, piece size could be positively affected by fertilization.	Unknown

Incremental Silviculture Strategy

Goals

Quantity: Based on silvicultural interventions only, maintain the current AAC of 0.6 million m^3/yr. for approximately 6 decades, declining smoothly thereafter to a long-term harvest level of 0.4 million m^3/yr.

Quality: Increase piece size and/or amount of clear wood.

7.0 Activity Tables to address FRBC Strategic Objectives

7.1 SH – Tables A, B, C and Summary

Six pages of tables follow.
Tables include submissions from TSA MYA holders and DNC as well as TFL 25 MYA holder.
Also included are an additional 4 tables (tables D to G) which are blank by design, no activities are planned or anticipated under these 4 categories.

7.2 EEV - Tables

Local DNC ranking criteria is listed in Appendix 2. Four pages of tables follow.
Tables include submissions from MYA holders for both the TSA and TFL.

7.3 SSFM - DNC submission to RPR

August 31, 1999 – 1:18 p.m. - Version
Resource Management Plan
For Operational Inventory Program (OIP)
North Coast Forest District
2000 - 2003

Objectives - OIP - LRMP:

"To provide the availability of operational inventories and their associated data bases as needed for the upcoming North Coast Local Resource Management Plan (LRMP). As the Kalum LRMP and the Cassiar Iskut-Stikine LRMP are coming to a close, the Prince Rupert Inter-Agency Management Committee has identified the DNC as a prime target for starting an LRMP on April 1, 2000. In order to meet the large deficit of OIPs, the strategies identified below must be started on immediately."

Strategies to meet OIP Objectives:

Strategy #1

"Provide current aerial photography on a seven year cycle."

- Replace existing 1992 photographs with updated low level 1:15,000 color photography for the entire district over a 2 year period beginning in 2000.
- Photos will be used for detailed resource inventories such as PEM, TEM, AOA, TSM, 5YRDP Planning, BEC, Trespass and Audits.
- Estimated cost for entire district, **$220,000**.
- Review TRIM II cost-sharing proposal with licensees in 1999.

Strategy #2

"Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) mapping"

- Using aerial photography from year 2000 and ground sample data, prepare 1:20,000 based mapping of environmentally sensitive areas including unstable soils and wildlife corridors. This information will be one of the base data used for Predictive Ecosystem Mapping (PEM).
- Project to begin in 2002 for a 2-year contract estimated at **$42,900**.

Strategy #3

"BEC Revision Strategy"

- Identify errors or defiance's in the 1:250,000 BEC mapping
- Using aerial photography from year 2000 and ground sample data, prepare 1:20,000 based mapping for the entire district that would more accurately depict the Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classifications on TRIM based maps (i.e. height of land and river and shore planemetric features).
- Project to begin in 2001, Estimated cost at **$30,400**.

Strategy #4

"Site Index Analysis and Interpretation"

- Gross errors have been identified on our inventory maps on site index estimates within operable landbase area. Intense sample data collection is to begin in 2001 and submitted for analysis and possible re-projection in 2002.
- Three staff in our district has volunteered to assist with data collection. Analysis and possible re-projection have to be contracted out at an estimated **$19,350**.

Strategy #5

"Predictive Ecosystem Mapping (PEM)"

- Once the mapping and data collection guidelines have been completed for PEM we will use the aerial photography from year 2000 and ground sample data, prepare 1:50,000 based PEM mapping.
- Project to begin in 2002 and finish in 2003 for a total cost of **$64,300**.
  Significant cost savings in comparison to the previous Terrestrial Eco-system Mapping.

Strategy #6

"Archeological Overview Assessment (AOA)"

- Current AOA is not sufficient to indicate where Licensees must manage for Archeological Impact Assessments (AIA). Additional administrative areas for operational harvesting have been issued which exceed our current inventory.
- Estimated Cost based on added areas is **$28,000** in 2000.

Strategy #7

"Traditional Use Study (TUS)"

- In order to sustain comparable working relationships with First Nations we need to complete the TUS project already started. One quarter has been completed at the cost of **$50,000**.
- Estimated cost to complete remaining TUS inventories **$150,000** over 3 years starting in year 2000.

Strategy #8

"Market Based Operability"

- Our current operability mapping has been criticized by many due to its inability to reflect the fluctuating market price and change in market species. Methodology and work will need the to be completed prior to our next TSR data package (3 years).
- Estimated cost **$31,350**. Project to begin in 2001.

Strategy #9

"Visual Landscape Inventory"

- In order to meet legislative requirements on visual quality we need to complete the inventories over the scenic corridors, which are highly sensitive to forest practices.
- Estimated cost over 2 years starting in 2001 is **$16,600**.

Strategy #10

"Fish Stream Classification Inventory"

- Several important legal requirement to Riparian Management Areas (RMAs) and wildlife corridors. Individual attempts have been made by several government agencies to classify and map this inventory. We are prepared to co-ordinate and manage the joint effort in collecting and further classifying the contentious drainage's on the North Coast to level S4 mapping.
- Estimated cost over 4 years starting in 2000 is **$98,500**.

Strategy #11

"Timber Harvesting Land Base mapping"

- Using Timber Supply netdowns and existing TSR digital overlays prepare 1:250 000 based mapping of the Timber Harvesting Land Base as well as a digital design file for use in Geomedia. This information will be one of the key products for use in the upcoming North Coast LRMP. As well, the information will be used for Landscape Unit Planning when outlining Old Growth Management Areas and Patch Size distribution.
- Estimated cost starting in 2000 is **8,500**.

Total Costs

2000			2001			2002			2003		
(6)	AOA	28,000	(3)	BEC	16,400	(5)	PEM	20,600	(5)	PEM	43,700
(9)	VLI	30,600	(4)	SI	19,350	(2)	ESA	26,700	(2)	ESA	16,200
(10)	FSC	14,600	(10)	FSC	21,800	(10)	FSA	41,100	(10)	FSC	21,000
(11)	THLB	8,500	(8)	OP	31,350						
		$81,700			**$88,900**			**$88,400**			**$80,900**

Strategy 1 (Airphotos) and 7 (TUS) are provincially funded.

Providing consistent and standardized inventories to all interests groups involved with Natural Resource Management, Forest Practices and LRMPs over the next 3 years will be substantially aided with the implementation of this plan.

Appendix 1 - Guidelines for the Development of Resource Management Plans – Skeena Bulkey Region – 2000/2001 Planning Year

GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS SKEENA BULKLEY REGION 2000/01 PLANNING YEAR

LEAD AGENCIES

- Ministry of Forests
- Ministry of Environment

CRITICAL DATES

▪ **AUGUST 20, 1999**	Submission of RMP process progress report to FRBC Director
▪ **AUGUST 31, 1999**	Submission of Draft RMP to FRBC Director
▪ **OCTOBER 5, 1999**	Submission of Final RMP to FRBC Director
▪ **OCTOBER 14, 1999**	Provision of funding splits (**program** and **geographic**) and direction on partnerships
▪ **OCTOBER 15, 1999**	RIP submitted by FRBC Region to HQ
▪ **OCTOBER 15, 1999 – FEBRUARY 18, 2000**	Proponents complete detailed workplans
▪ **NOVEMBER 11, 1999**	FRBC Board of Directors Meeting—Investment Plan. Submitted for approval
▪ **MARCH 9, 2000**	Final investment plan submitted for approval with activity level investments, outputs, and employment Targets
▪ **APRIL 1, 2000**	**Beginning of Fiscal 2000/01**

THE FOREST RENEWAL BC INVESTMENT PLANNING PROCESS

Includes: 1) **Resource Management Planning** and
2) **Investment Planning**

- The **Resource Management Planning** process is generally characterised as the technical, return on investment or priority setting portion of the investment plan.

- The **Investment Planning** process is generally characterised as the social, or equity portion (funding distributions, partnership involvement, First Nation participation levels, etc.) of the investment plan.

  The overall target of the **Investment Planning** process is to:

  1. Ensure the best possible return on investment, meeting the **Corporate Strategic Investments;**
  2. Provide a **balanced spatial and temporal distribution of investments** to support the **Corporate Strategic Investments** and principles;
  3. **Enable Forest Renewal BC's partner groups to participate in the investment planning process;**
  4. Produce a schedule of investments over two years as input into the development of the **Corporate Business Plan,** and;
  5. Achieve and record appropriate performance measures where and when available as a gauge of achievement of **Corporate Strategic Objectives.**

FOREST RENEWAL BC's STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Forest Renewal BC investments must reflect the objectives provided in the five year strategic plans (Strategic Plan 1999-2003). The strategic objectives fall under the following seven headings:

1. **Sustainable Harvest**
2. **Enhance Environmental Values**
3. **Strengthen Sustainable Forest Management (Enhance Knowledge)**
4. **Strengthen and Expand the Value Added Sector**
5. **Support Forest Workers Through Transition**
6. **Support Forest Communities Experiencing Major Job Loss**
7. **Increase Forest Renewal BC's Effectiveness and Efficiency.**

Although the **Forest and Environment Investment Group** activities touch on all of these objectives, its **main focus** is the **first three strategic objectives**. Each of the strategic objectives (summary definitions below) has a key target and a number of business areas though which the overall objective is achieved:

1. **Sustainable Harvest** – *Forest Renewal BC will invest in the production of faster growing higher quality stands of second growth timber on lands available for timber production.*
   a. Programs to put more land into timber production (**Backlog Reforestation**);
   b. Programs to maximize the volume, value, and health of second growth forests (**Enhanced Forestry**);
   c. Programs which support the application of forest level plans in silviculture decision making (**models and tools**).

   Key Target: ***Over the next five years, Forest Renewal investments in sustainable harvest will increase the timber available for potential future harvest by 25 million cubic metres.***

1. **Enhance Environment Values** – *Forest Renewal BC will invest in restoring forest waterhseds and in promoting environmental stewardship and strong environmental values in BC's forests.*
   a. Programs which restore watersheds which have been damaged or threatened by past forest harvesting (**Watershed Restoration**). Key watersheds targeted (**highest priority**) will be those with **high fisheries values** or those that **provide community water supplies** and which have a **high likelihood of restoration success**.

   Key Target: ***Over the next five years, Forest Renewal BC will work with its partners to complete the restoration of 20 per cent of the highest priority watersheds that have been damaged or seriously threatened by past forest development activities.***

3. **Strength Sustainable Forest Management (Enhance Knowledge)** – *Forest Renewal BC will invest in the development of relevant, usable, timely information and tools keyed to achieving sustainable forest management.*
   a. Programs that identify and develop the information and tools needed to create better strategic resource plans and make better strategic decisions (**Strategic Level Inventories**);
   b. **Innovative Forest Practices Agreements** and **Enhanced Forest Management Pilot Projects**— Although not specifically addressed in the Strategic Plan, these programs work toward the development of relevant, usable, and timely information and tools in achieving **Sustainable Forest Management**. These programs also have activities that fall within the other two **Strategic Objectives**. These programs will be dealt with in the **Investment Planning Process** as programs **separate from the others identified (BL, EFP, WRP, OIP)**.

   Key Target: ***Over the next five years, Forest Renewal BC will work with its partners to identify and address key gaps in knowledge for sustainable forest management. Key gaps will be addressed to help improve future TSRs and LRMPs.***

INVESTMENT PLANNING PRINCIPLES

1. **Highest priorities** for investment are **business areas, programs and activities** based on the potential contribution toward **achieving a Corporate Strategic Objective at reasonable cost**;
2. The planning process must be transparent; **major stakeholder groups** must have the **opportunity to participate** in the **Forest and Environment Investment Planning Process**;
3. The proportion of total funding and employment managed through partnership arrangements is to be maintained at current levels;
4. Forest Renewal BC's **stakeholders** must understand, **in advance**, the **investment planning process** and their **opportunity for input** into that process. Where stakeholders play a **direct role** in setting **resource and environmental management** priorities they will have the **opportunity to participate** in the **technical resource management planning** process carried out on Forest Renewal BC's behalf by the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks.
5. Planning process outputs will be determined as **program level investment strategies.**
   a. Individual land-based investments must be explained and defended in terms of their potential for return on investment and value-for-dollar, and;
   b. The total annual employment created through investments is expected to be proportional to that created in previous years.

FOREST RENEWAL BC FUNDED ACTIVITIES

Assuming eligibility requirements are met, an activity must **directly contribute** to **at least one of the above strategic objectives** in order to be funded by Forest Renewal BC.

The extent to which it contributes to the strategic objectives and corporate commitments will determine its priority. The **Resource Management Plans** determine the **priority of investment opportunities** as they apply to the **strategic objectives**. **Investment Planning Guidelines** provide **priority and direction** for the **Corporate commitments**.

The four Corporate commitments are:

- **Regional equity**
- **First Nations participation**
- **New or ongoing partnership development**
- **Employment creation**

THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS

Resource Management Plans (RMPs) are **synopsis of technical resource and environmental management priorities and opportunities** as prepared by the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks. The RMPs are developed in consultation with Forest Renewal BC's agreement holders and other directly relevant stakeholders. The Ministries will cooperate to deliver integrated regional RMPs based on Forest Renewal BC's administrative boundaries.

RMP GROUND RULES

In order to assure adequate understanding between the Ministries and Forest Renewal BC, a set of **ground rules** or **objectives** have been determined. The ground rules set the stage for RMP development, are set by Forest Renewal BC in consultation with the Ministries and are used as a **benchmark** against which the RMPs will be evaluated. The following have been established as ground rules between the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, and Forest Renewal BC, in the Skeena Bulkley Region:

1. **Geographic Units.**
   a. **Silviculture**: District is basis for planning; objectives and strategies by rolled up (if multiple) TSAs, and by TFL as distinct units. Cassiar TSA will be dealt with as a separate unit from the Bulkley TSA.
   b. **WRP:** Key watersheds will be identified at the regional level by the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks. The agencies will also determine the operational units (watershed level, landscape level, etc.). The key units will be used as prioritization units at the district level, rolled up to district priorities, and further rolled into a regional plan.
   c. **Inventory:** By inventory type, by district, and rolled into a regional plan.

1. **Who leads the process, who is directly involved, who contributes and how.**
   a. **Silviculture:** Ministry of Forests leads, licensees have direct input, existing proponents' input accepted for consideration where put forward or requested. Other stakeholders' input into silvicultural development is and continues to be through the LRMP process, which drives objectives. Licensees will lead on TFLs. Current RMPs will be used as a starting point; participant input will be sought and adjustments made to existing plans for this planning year. Substantive agreement is sought on the objectives and strategies by geographic unit, as well as the list of opportunities developed.
   b. **WRP: MOF/MELP** establish and identify key watersheds, MOF District staff lead process for prioritizing top 20% for treatment, those to be transitioned out of, those not on top 20% but with good chance of success. Details of the work to be done (i.e. at the activity level) are to be done at the workplan stage. RMPs identify the priority watersheds to be worked on. MYA holders are directly involved. DFO also invited to provide input as to fish habitat priorities. These participants provide information as to whom has information that would be specifically applicable to the RMP development. Those that have technical input for the RMP will be asked to participate in the development of specific parts of the RMP.
   c. **Inventory:** Co-ordinated at the regional level. Ministries will define guidelines for input and request input from licensees. Questionnaires (request for specific input) will be developed and provided to licensees so that consistent input can be obtained (these inputs will be derived from the planning guidelines). The plan will then be assembled by the regional ministry staff and reviewed for substantive agreement by licensees (with adjustments as necessary).

1. **Roles and Responsibilities of Participants**
   a. Participation of stakeholders (licensees, others - as defined above) will be requested by the Ministries leading the process with timelines appropriate to the reasonable completion of the RMPs.
   b. Licensees and other participants must provide input in a timely fashion where provided with reasonable opportunity to participate in the process.
   c. The Ministries will document the level of participation and opportunity provided to stakeholders and include this documentation in the progress report.
   d. Participants of RMP process will provide technical information consistent with the RMP guidelines. **The RMP process is not a forum for input of values of a social or investment planning nature.**

1. **Process for RMP Development**
   a. **Silviculture**
      i. MOF and licensees will meet to determine and refine objectives and strategies. Previous year plans used as start point and 'tweaked' by adding licensee input.
      ii. TFL process will be led by licensee.
      iii. A **silviculture strategy contract** is being developed for next year's planning process. The strategies and plans arising from this contract will be discussed with licensees prior to implementation.
      iv. Silviculture opportunities will be based on agreed upon strategies and objectives.
   b. **WRP**
      i. Regional identification of key watersheds (watershed atlas).
      ii. District consultation with stakeholders - determine priority of watershed opportunities by determining which watersheds; 1) are not a future priority and should be transitioned out of; 2) the key watershed to be worked on and completed within 5 years; and 3) the watersheds to be worked on but not to be completed within 5 years. These make up the RMP. Details of the activities within priority watersheds are to be developed at the work plan stage.
   c. **Inventory**
      i. As described in Section 2 above.

1. **Forest Renewal Input into RMP Process**
   a. Overall guiding (notional) investment level estimates (regional, district splits, program splits). Final numbers to be developed within investment planning phase after RMPs are developed (i.e. RMPs to assist in determining final allocations).
   b. Overview of strategic plan and how it guides RMP process.
   c. How RMPs will be used in planning process.

1. **RMP Content**
   a. **Silviculture**
      i. Criteria, strategies, objectives, and ground rules to be established by MOF/Licensees.
      ii. Opportunities within the strategies to be identified by licensees with MOF support.
      iii. Priorities ranked by strategy direction and selection based on agreed upon list of opportunities.
   b. **WRP**
      i. Key watersheds identified
      ii. To 20% to be completed over next 5 years
      iii. Watersheds to transition out of
      iv. Priorities for watersheds to be completed after 5 years
   c. **Inventory**
      i. Types are ranked against one another.
      ii. Assumes that capability to deliver inventory exists, if not, opportunity for investment may change.
      iii. Priorities set from questionnaires, included in the plan, and reviewed by participants as discussed above.

1. **Cost Estimates**
   a. **Silviculture:** To be included by opportunity identified
   b. **WRP:** To be included where reasonable information is available
   c. **Inventory:** To be included by inventory opportunity

8. **Conflict Resolution around determination of priorities**
   a. Preventive measures preferred over reactionary:
      i. Ground rules established by participants prior to plan establishment
      ii. Substantive agreement desired on objectives and strategies
      iii. Priorities must fit with established objectives and strategies
      iv. RMP guidelines provide direction for development of objectives, strategies and priorities
   b. Where conflict arises that cannot be resolved locally, Ministry regional co-ordinators will make first attempt at resolution.
   c. Where conflict cannot be resolved by regional co-ordinators, issue will be referred to Forest Renewal BC Director.

9. **General**
   a. Ranking of priorities and opportunities will be tied directly to objectives and strategies plan. Objectives and strategies are developed by main stakeholders and using RMP guidelines and Forest Renewal BC's Strategic Objectives.
   b. Each RMP will have a discussion of objectives and strategies.
   c. Draft report will be completed and delivered to forest Renewal BC **by August 30, 1999** and include:
      i. **Silviculture:** Objectives and strategies by geographic unit;
      ii. **WRP:** Objectives and strategies, identification of key watersheds, identification of traditional watersheds;
      iii. **Inventory:** Objectives and strategies, questionnaires developed, distributed, and input received.
      iv. **Progress Report:** Summary of stakeholder participation, summary of progress on RMPs.
   d. General rule is to proceed to objectives with best efforts and using best information available. Where complete information is not available, or optimal solution not available, make best decisions possible. If necessary, adjustments may be made later when better information, or resources available.
   e. The **RMPs,** in the end, will be **THE** list of opportunities and priorities to invest from. **The highest priorities and value opportunities identified will be selected for investment.**

Appendix 2 - DNC Watershed Restoration Program Ranking Criteria, Watershed/Landscape Unit Map and BEO Ratings.

Also see Appendix 3 for further rationale.

Appendix 2A
Watershed Restoration Program Rational for Inclusion to the North Coast RMP
September 23, 1999

Use of Landscape Units (LU) for consistency was agreed upon in the establishment of the ground rules early on in the summer of 1999. Many LU contain multiple watersheds and additional refinement into Sub-basin down to the appropriate level was required.

Transition: All transition watershed were selected based on completion of on-going projects by March 31, 2001. Considerable investment of funds and/or effort has already been utilized on these watersheds. Some of these watershed projects will not be eligible after this time if ranked using the new strategic models.

Key watersheds all have fish values or water quality issues. Selection of the best 20% to target was based on input from DFP, Licensees and MELP representatives.

It is expected that further refinement to the WRP component within the RMP will evolve as information and stakeholder interest continue to be input into the process.

Appendix 2C

North Coast Forest District

Table of Detailed District Strategies

Revised June 14, 1999

- Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP): Portion of district in Central Coast LRMP. Other Portion not started.
- Timber Supply Areas (TSAs): North Coast TSA
- Allowable Annual Cut (AAC): 600 000 cubic meters per year

LU Name	Gross Area	Operable Ha	Operable %	BEO 1998	Changes	BEO 1999	Completion of OGMAs/WTPs
Kumealon	45 577	7201	16	H	None. Red Flag.	H	March 1, 2000
Chambers	38 669	10097	26	I	None. Red Flag.	I	March 1, 2000
Kwinamass	33 382	7748	23	I	None. Red Flag.	I	March 1, 2000
Hartley	52 878	4024	8	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Somerville	37 490	8581	23	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Green	34 171	5902	17	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Aaltanhash	18 482	2624	14	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Klekane	23 601	2291	11	L	Yes. Boundary.	L	March 1, 2000
Surf	30 471	3604	12	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Helmcken	36 430	538	1	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Chapple	21 655	2108	10	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Whalen	30 615	6565	21	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Quottoon	38 781	5355	14	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Bishop	25 936	6261	22	L	Yes. Boundary.	L	March 1, 2000
Triumph	20 698	5108	25	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Kaien	48 511	7675	16	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Porcher	60 987	8598	14	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Tuck	51 290	6907	13	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Scotia	33 751	5637	17	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Big Falls	32 029	5828	18	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Hawkes	21 322	3193	15	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Gribbell	19 571	2424	12	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Butedale	21 488	3993	19	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Khutze	34 586	1921	6	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Laredo	53 482	8625	16	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Tolmie	22 120	4500	20	H	None.	H	March 1, 2000
Khtada	30 678	2856	9	H	None.	H	March 1, 2000
Brown	24 902	1510	6	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Johnston	45 929	3768	8	I	None.	I	March 1, 2000
Kitkiata	37 586	4562	12	H	None.	H	March 1, 2000
Red Bluff	33 986	1524	4	L	None.	L	March 1, 2000
Hevenor	40 592	1623	4	H	None.	H	March 1, 2000
Captain	20 352	3875	19	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Stagoo	39 594	3641	9	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000

(Continued)

LU Name	Gross Area	Operable Ha	Operable %	BEO 1998	Changes	BEO 1999	Completion of OGMAs/WTPs
Monckton	30 470	265	1	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Banks	97 094	183	0	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Union	24 448	5325	22	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Gil	23 582	3393	14	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Khyex	51 573	3216	6	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Sparkling	35 361	1616	5	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Kiltuish	28 110	1949	7	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Skeena	7 109	703	10	H	None.	H	October 1, 2000
Pa-aat	18 589	1570	8	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Kitsault	67 249	9708	14	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Crab	24 110	3315	14	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
McCauley	35 061	649	2	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Pearse	31 554	3803	12	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Marmot	45 472	5119	11	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Belle Bay	33 718	3451	10	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Nass	5 347	1339	25	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Greenville	8 853	3932	44	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Iknouk	32 804	4185	13	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Observatory East	13 684	957	7	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Observatory West	16 039	1042	6	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Anyox	31 052	0	0	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Kshwan	41 409	0	0	H	None.	H	October 1, 2000
Olh	22 633	0	0	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Dundas	22 934	0	0	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Stephens	9 771	0	0	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Aristazabal	44 827	0	0	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Trutch	13 023	0	0	L	None.	L	October 1, 2000
Campania	16 664	181	1	I	None.	I	October 1, 2000
Khutzeymateen	N/A	0	N/A	Park	N/A	Park	N/A

Summary

High BEO	7	9.9%
Intermediate BEO	24	46.08%
Low BEO	31	44.02%
Park	1	N/A
Total Landscape Units	63	100%

Appendix 3 - Stakeholder Involvement

Appendix 3 consists of the following:

- RMP Meeting with DFO – September 14, 1999 – meeting notes
- Email - Interfor 2000-2001 RMP – Owen Fewer to Mike Grainger and Kelly Sawchuk
- Email - WRP – RMP Plans – FRBC – Lance Loggin to Kelly Sawchuk
- Email - WRP input for RMP – Ken Hall to Kelly Sawchuk
- Email - North Coast WRP RMP – Doug Johnston to Kelly Sawchuk
- Table - Resource Management Plan North Coast Forest District – 2 pages
- Email - RMP targets, ground rules and stakeholder participation guidelines – Kelly Sawchuk to Don Gosnell, Mike Grainger, Bob Cuthbert
- Email - RMP targets, ground rules and stakeholder participation guidelines – Kelly Sawchuk to Dave Andermatt and Mike Grainger
- Email - How are we doing with the RMP tables? – Kelly Sawchuk to Various
- Email - How are we doing with the RMP tables? – Gary Skabeikis to Kelly Sawchuk
- Email - Resource Management Plan – Inventory – Kelly Sawchuk to Lance Loggin
- Email - RMP targets, ground rules and stakeholder participation guidelines – Kelly Sawchuk to Lance Loggin
- Email - WRP for RMP – Kelly Sawchuk to Bob Cuthbert
- Email - Draft list of watershed harvesting related impact and fish values for RMP – Kelly Sawchuk to Various
- Email - WRP RMP – Kelly Sawchuk to Bob Cuthbert, Mike Grainger, Howard Debeck
- Email - North Coast WRP RMP – Kelly Sawchuk to Doug Johnston
- Email - Resource Management Plan – Inventory – Kelly Sawchuk to Various
- Email - Inventory Rankings for North Coast Planning Unit (FRBC Funds) – Sarma Liepins to Kelly Sawchuk
- Email - Interfor 2000-2001 RMP – Owen Fewer to Mike Grainger

Numerous telephone calls from mid July to October 1999.

Full Email copies on file at DNC

Appendix 4 -An Addendum to the Oct. 5 1999 RMP

Introduction:
The following supplements the Resource Management Plan for Land Based Activities in the North Coast Forest District (DNC). Version October 5,1999.

This appendix addresses data gaps identified by FRBCs evaluation on content requirements as per; "Appendix I RMP Guidelines For The Sustainable Harvest Component" Draft, June 30,1999, requirements as outlined in 2.5 Regional RMP Requirements page 7 & 8 and Management Unit RMP Outline pages 8 through 11 are addressed.

Regional requirements:
Criteria 3 "Developed for Woodlot Licensees using 3-year opportunity plans".
As identified page 6 of the RMP, Woodlot AAC contribution is 0%. The North Coast District is presently in the final stages of approving its first Woodlot Licence agreement. Due to the infancy of the Woodlot (all area is presently wooded) no silviculture strategy exists. Tenure holders of Woodlots have basic obligations until "Free Growing". Incremental silviculture opportunities will be incorporated into the RMP at a future date.

Criteria 9 " Considers TSA, TFL and Woodlot Licence objectives and priorities".
As per the answer in criteria 3 consideration to Woodlot opportunities is not provided at this time.

Criteria 18 "Provides a sufficiently detailed description of the general types of sites and opportunities for treatment".
Sustained harvest opportunities are primarily focussed on previously harvested blocks that were logged between 12 and 30 years ago. The following is a list of the opportunities with a brief description of the attributes, priorities and/or constraints:

- Surveys – all blocks harvested prior to 1988 not currently declared free growing, blocks identified with incremental silviculture opportunities, priorities are related to year of harvest newer blocks first or identified biological need. For 2000/01 both the TSA and TFL 25 will complete surveys.
- Brushing – blocks must be harvested prior to 1988, blocks must have needs identified through a survey or recce, blocks must have suitable levels of stocking to ensure the treatment is worthwhile. Priority is based on biological need of the site; regeneration survival is the highest priority. For 2000/01 both the TSA and TFL 25 will complete brushing.
- Spacing – spacing priority is based on site index, density, forest health concerns, age, location, access and other factors. For 2000/01 all the spacing is scheduled for TSA ground.
- Pruning – pruning priority is based on site index, species, density, forest health concerns, age, location, access and other factors. For 2000/01 the entire pruning program is scheduled for TFL 25 ground.
- Forest health studies – this is aimed at the porcupine problems occurring in second growth stands.

Management Unit RMP Outline:
3.3 "Incremental Silviculture History"
Incremental silviculture includes spacing, pruning, and fertilizing.

- To-date fertilization has only been used for site rehabilitation projects. No operational fertilization has occurred to provide for incremental growth.
- DNC first started pruning in 1991 with a 16 ha project. Since then some pruning has occurred in 5 of the last 7 years. To-date we have 226.5 ha of pruning recorded on ISIS (or about 28 ha/year). In fiscal 2000/2001 WFP has proposed completing 118 ha.
- DNCs first recorded spacing project was completed in 1980, however the program did not fully get off the ground until 1985. To the end of fiscal year 1998/1999 DNC completed 2708 ha of spacing or approximately 193 ha/year. In fiscal 2000/2001 Interfor and West Fraser have proposed completing 140 ha. TSR 2 (not yet released) has based its growth assumptions on 200 ha of incremental spacing per year.

3.6 "Habitat Supply"

The North Coast TSA landbase is comprised of 1,947,500 ha with a productive Crown Forest of 704,800 ha; however the net timber harvesting land base is 114,200 ha or 6% of the total. Due to the low percent and the small incremental program habitat supply in second growth areas within the TSA has not become an issue.

However, biodiversity considerations are being managed using all relevant guidelines on a site-specific basis. Inventories of sites for potential opportunities will be developed/identified with implementation of the Land and Resources Management Plan process scheduled for the North Coast in the near future. Currently DNC has limited opportunities as evidenced by lack of MELP requests or developed plans. In a general sense, standard silviculture activities positively contribute to habitat by providing extended foraging opportunities and opening up dense canopies to sunlight benefiting browse species. Riparian area, travel corridors, connectivity to upslope/subalpine values and other biodiversity concerns are managed on a site specific basis as identified on stand management prescriptions (SMP) or silviculture prescriptions (SP).

3.7 "Working Targets"
Timber supply as identified on the harvest forecast graph page 6 currently uses a model that maintains harvesting levels (600,000 m^3/yr.) for the next 50 years. Gradually stepping down over 50 more years to a long-term sustainable level of 301,000 m^3/yr. This model results in a significant decrease of 50% over 12 decades. Working targets for qualities are specific to tenure and supply area profiles, but generally are managing for high quality sawlogs and desirable species profile. As outlined on page 10 the silviculture program can work towards controlling species, increasing piece size and improving wood quality.

The DNC silviculture program including the TFL lands works to maintain both supply and quality targets for sustainability in support of the current model or rate of cut as determined by the Chief Forester. Summaries of TSR issues including supply and quality are contained in pages 7-10.

Adjustments to the rate of cut or reduction in the landbase would require further analyse for determining program funding levels required for sustainability.

3.8 "Incremental Silviculture Program"
The proposed incremental silviculture program is listed in 7.1 Table B Stand Tending Activities. TSR 2 makes the assumption that there will be approximately 200 ha of incremental spacing per year (current indications are that funding will not be available to cover this level for 2000/2001).

3.9 "Job outcomes"
Immediate job outcomes directly associated with the program expenditures of $1,140,490 under the Sustainable Harvest Component are estimated at 2902 person days of employment.

The sustained harvest program will not likely increase the long-term employment opportunities but will help maintain them.

4.6 "Habitat Supply (Table F)"
As discussed in 3.6 table F has not been included at this time.

Resource Management Plan Review

Three sections of the RMP Guidelines for the Sustainable Harvest Component provide instructions on what information is to be included in the Resource Management Plans. The RMPs submitted by the Ministry of Forests Districts have been evaluated by Forest Renewal BC, Skeena Bulkley Region, based on those instructions. The ground rules agreed upon by the Ministries of Forests, Environment, Lands and Parks and Forest Renewal BC and stated in the Guidelines for the development of Resource Management Plans, Skeena Bulkley Region, 2000/01 Planning Year, are the benchmark against which the RMPs are evaluated. Most of the individual ground rules are iterated in the guidelines themselves and the ground rules specifically state that objectives and strategies are developed by main stakeholders and using RMP guidelines and Forest Renewal BCs Strategic Objectives. The following evaluates the RMP based on the requirements provided in the Guidelines for the Sustainable Harvest Component.

North Coast Forest District Resource Management Plan

Criteria	Achieved / Not Achieved / Not Evaluated	Comments
2.5 Regional Requirements		
1. RMP @ mgmt (TSA/TFL) level rolled up to district level	achieved	Tables were a rollup of management unit data. WFP (TFL holder) provided RMP data to MOF and it was incorporated into the district rollup.
2. Meets MOF/FRBC requirements for stakeholder participation	achieved	
3. Developed for woodlot licensees using 3-year opportunity plans	Not achieved	No woodlot information
4. Incorporates IFPA/EFMPP requirements	N/A	
5. Developed with involvement and general consensus from licensees	achieved	
6. Provides information for investors to make informed investment decisions	achieved	Could be enhanced by inclusion of missing information identified in section 3. Particularly provide expected outcome (in terms of timber quantity and quality) of treatments relative to working targets
7. Based on best available information	Not Evaluated	
8. Identifies a set of priority operational opportunities	See tables and strategies	
9. Considers TSA, TFL and woodlot licence objectives and priorities	Partly achieved	Woodlots missing
10. Lists requirements to keep the land base fully stocked with free growing trees	Not Evaluated	
11. Estimates the effects of activities on anticipated outcomes as measured by the specific performance indicators	Not Evaluated at this time	
12. Considers the constraints to annual accomplishments (ownership, admin, legisl, regs, industry ability to implement)	Not Evaluated	

13. Specifically references strategic plan(s) considered	achieved	
14. Provides other issues and options to the potential investor(s) (e.g. Feds)	Not Evaluated	
15. Recognizes other existing strategies	N/A	
16. Provides a Table of funding requirements for investment opportunities	See Section 4 below	
17. Identifies funding opportunities for other potential provincial or federal funding programs	Not Evaluated	
18. Provides a sufficiently detailed description of the general types of sites and opportunities for treatment	Partly achieved	Information at District level rather than management unit or sub-management unit level.

Management Unit RMP Outline		
3.1 Basic Data	achieved	
3.2 Issues	achieved	
3.3 Incremental Silviculture History	Not achieved	Not documented in RMP
3.4 Opportunities to Increase Timber Supply	Achieved	
3.4.1 Potential treatments and treatable area information	achieved	
3.4.2 Potential strategies by response time frame	achieved	
3.5 Opportunities to improve timber quality	achieved	
3.5.1 Potential treatments	achieved	
3.5.2 Potential strategies by response time frame	achieved	
3.5.3 Timber quality forecast scenarios	achieved	
3.6 Habitat supply	Not achieved	
3.7 Working targets	Not achieved	
3.8 Incremental silviculture program	Not Achieved	
3.9 Job outcomes	Not Achieved	
4 Standard RMP Summary Tables	achieved	
4.1 Backlog (Table A)	achieved	
4.2 Stand Tending (Table B)	achieved	
4.3 Forest Health Enhancement (Table C)	achieved	
4.4 Forest Health Maintenance (Table D)	Not Evaluated	
4.5 Current Fire and Pest (Table E)	Not Evaluated	
4.6 Habitat Supply (Table F)	Not achieved	